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Typed or Printed Name		Steven F. Goldstein	
Signature		[Signature]	
		Date	May 11, 2001
<b>RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR ELECTION OF SPECIES AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT</b>  Responsive to Paper No. 3  Address to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231		Attorney Docket	DURE021
		First Named Inventor	Arenberg, et al. # 08
		Application Number	09/205,251 ARVENS
		Filing Date	December 4, 1998 52418
		Group Art Unit	3762
		Examiner Name	P. Bianco
		Title	Controlled Release System for Delivering Therapeutic Agents Into the Inner Ear

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Office Action dated April 11, 2001, which set a one month period for response, making this communication due on or before May 11, 2001.

Prior to examination on the merits, please enter the amendments below. Please note that claims indicated as "Reiterated" are not amended, but simply re-presented for the Examiner's convenience.

### AMENDMENTS

#### IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Reiterated) A method for delivering therapeutic agents into the inner ear of a living subject through the round window niche and the round window membrane thereof, said method comprising:

providing a drug delivery unit comprised of at least one synthetic controlled release carrier media material and at least one therapeutic agent combined therewith, said carrier